

# The Senate of The State of Texas

## CAPITOL OFFICE:

P.O. Box 12068  
Room E1.810  
Austin, Texas 78711  
(512) 463-0119  
FAX: (512) 463-1017  
DIAL 711 FOR RELAY CALLS



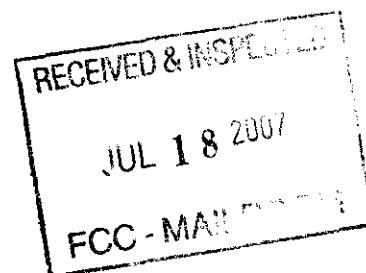
## DISTRICT OFFICE:

2530 SW Military Dr.  
Suite 103  
San Antonio, Texas 78224-1020  
(210) 932-2568  
FAX: (210) 932-2572  
DIAL TOLL FREE: 1-800-459-0119

July 12, 2007

## Senator Carlos Uresti District 19

Marlene Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street NE  
Washington, D.C. 20554



RE: WC Docket No. 02-60  
Rural Health Care Pilot Program  
Texas Health Information Network Collaborative- (THINC)

Dear Secretary Dortch:


Please accept this letter as an indication of strong support for the Texas Health Information Network Collaborative- (THINC) infrastructure proposal. This collaborative proposal will enhance statewide rural healthcare by creating a broadband telehealth network.

THINC will allow the rural health care providers to connect with urban medical centers, telehealth programs and services, medical education and other services, resulting in improved access to care, patient safety and quality. In addition, increased patient and clinician satisfaction. Service Partners with this application include more than 200 community healthcare providers across Texas, including CHRISTUS Health System, University Texas Medical Branch (UTMB), Texas A&M Health Science Center (TAMHSC), East Texas Area Health Education Center (AHEC), Rural & Community Health Institute (RCHI), and TeleCommunity Resource Center (TCRC) to name a few.

Year 1 grant funding is requested for network planning and initial development. The first year projects a total of 250 rural and 10 medical center connections.

I appreciate the FCC's interest in expanding the capabilities of rural health care delivery and improving the care of all Texans. I encourage you to give this application the strongest consideration possible. If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

  
Carlos I. Uresti  
CIU/rkj

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